

News briefs

Overseas EQUAL available

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas assignments is now available for the April-June 2003 cycle.

Members need to work through the military personnel flight or their commander's support staffs to update preferences. The deadline for updating assignment preferences is Aug. 22. Airmen will be notified of selections by Sept. 9.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by Air Force Specialty Code and rank. Members are instructed to review and specifically list their job preferences in order, based on the EQUAL list. People can view the lists from the AFPC home page at <http://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlisted/enlisted.htm> or in the base military personnel flight office. Those on temporary duty during the advertising period can contact the nearest personnel office for assistance. (Contributed by Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.)

Unaccompanied travel

Military family members ages 12-17 are authorized to travel unaccompanied on permanent change of station and consecutive overseas travel status only. When traveling unaccompanied, a parent, preferably the sponsor, must drop off youth family members. During drop off, the parent must provide the name, address and telephone number for the person on the receiving end. The sponsor must complete an Air Mobility Command Form 1004 in triplicate. The traffic management office doesn't have the forms. They're available at www.e-publishing.af.mil. Also, the sponsor must remain with the youth until they board the aircraft. Call the TMO passenger service office at 452-6661 for details.

CGO meeting

The Spangdahlem Air Base Company Grade Officer Council meets Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Saber Club. All base CGOs are encouraged to attend.

SSEMC meeting

The Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Club meets Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Gasthaus Holzwurm in Gransdorf. Members will plan future community events and elect a treasurer. Make reservations or get more information by e-mailing ssemc2002@-no-hyphen.yahoo.com by Saturday.

SNCO induction ceremony

The 2002 Senior Non-Commissioned

See Briefs, Page 2

Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 28

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Aug. 9, 2002

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Peters and Senior Airman Edward Stasney, both from the 52nd Communications Squadron, build up a unit deployment pallet during the wing's Phase One Local Salty Nation Aug. 1. Deployable modules, such as those used to ship communications equipment, prevent damage. Pallet building in preparation for exercise deployments is one of many tasks wing members must be prepared to do for LSN exercises and the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.

Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Wing cargo readiness team helps units get out of town

By Senior Master Sgt. Chris Sells

52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Readiness Flight

(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles designed to prepare 52nd Fighter Wing members for the base's upcoming Local Salty Nation exercises, as well as the Operational Readiness Inspection slated to begin in September.)

When it's time to deploy, the 52nd Fighter Wing must be ready to roll. This includes personnel and cargo.

Team Eifel has heard a lot about personnel readiness, including the importance of keeping immunizations, powers of attorney, dog tags and other deployment necessities up-to-date. It's possible, however, that units may have to prepare cargo to deploy.

the wing experiences with cargo when it's time to deploy. Each item is critical because they could either cause delays in airlift or prevent the wing from a fast effective downrange deployment.

10. Increments aren't built properly or not built at all. In Phase One exercises, units who don't deploy often get caught short because they don't have anyone trained to build a pallet. Then they have to look to another squadron for help. The 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron air terminal operations offers pallet building classes. Units can register for a class by contacting their unit training manager. Each unit must have enough members on each shift qualified to build their tasked cargo.

The following is a top 10 list of the most common problems

See **Pallets**, Page 2

Panthers prowl around, fire upon Slovak range

By Staff Sgt. Cindy York
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Most of the 81st Fighter Squadron might have missed out on the wing's latest Local Salty Nation exercise because of the weapons training deployment to Slovakia, but they sure didn't miss out on their own action.

The squadron completed 138 sorties in nine days of flying and participated in an

open house where more than 10,000 Slovaks gathered around various static displays, including a Spangdahlem Air Base A-10, fire truck and explosive ordnance disposal bomb robot.

Add to that the biggest maintenance challenge ever seen by Senior Master Sgt. Roger Schwenneker, deployed maintenance superintendent and first sergeant, and it equals a very busy two weeks.

Despite the numerous maintenance issues encountered this trip to the 2nd Air Force Base, Kuchyna, Schwenneker said this deployment was very successful. The pilots met their sortie goal while dropping 1,030 BDU-33s and firing 10,000 rounds of 30 mm ammunition.

Additionally, from the maintenance perspective, "it helped us to show prioritization in the repair of aircraft," he

said. "Every bare base operation will give a great opportunity for new learning, and this is no different."

The limited amenities seemed to be the biggest challenge for the pilots, as well, but the weapons training received in Slovakia is "better than anything we could get in Germany," said Maj. Steve Ramer, 81st

See **Slovakia**, Pages 4-5

Accidents

By John Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Nineteen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, eight of which were major.

The first accident happened on K-91 between Picklessem and Spangdahlem. A military spouse was traveling toward Spangdahlem, when a local national's vehicle in the opposite lane swerved into her lane and caused a collision.

The spouse sustained lower-back injuries and the local national was transported to Clemens-August Hospital in Bitburg for examination. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

The second accident took place on B-50 in the vicinity of Metterich. An airman attempting to negotiate a sharp turn lost control of his vehicle and struck a concrete pole. There were no injuries. An investigation revealed the road was wet and slippery with fallen leaves. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

The third happened on B-50 near Beilingen. A military spouse lost control of his vehicle while negotiating a turn. His car entered the oncoming lane and struck a tractor-trailer. There were no injuries. The spouses's vehicle sustained multiple damages. The tractor trailer received minor dents and a broken front-right headlight. The family member's vehicle was towed from the scene.

The fourth accident took place on A-4 near Trier-Ehrang. An airman driving toward Spangdahlem encountered an erratic driver who abruptly pulled out into the flow of traffic. In response, the airman swerved and collided with a local national's car in the opposite lane. There were no injuries. The airman's vehicle sustained damage to the entire front end. The local national's vehicle sustained minor dents and scratches. The airman's vehicle was towed from the scene.

The fifth happened on L-46 at the A-60 Spangdahlem exit. A Belgian national who rolled through the stop sign at the L-46 intersection unexpectedly collided with an airman driving toward Oberkail.

Bitburg Polizei responded and determined the Belgian disregarded the signal that ultimately caused the accident. The accident is still pending investigation. The Belgian national's passenger suffered unknown injuries and was transported to the Bitburg Krankenhaus for examination.

The airman's vehicle sustained disabling damage to the entire front end. The other vehicle sustained disabling damage to the driver's side rear quarter panel.

The sixth accident was on B-50 in the vicinity of Lanscheid. A civilian employee was traveling in the direction of Binsfeld when he and his passenger encountered an airman who had lost control of his vehicle and struck

them head-on. A security forces investigation revealed the airman was traveling too fast for conditions. There were no injuries. Both vehicles sustained disabling front-end damage and were towed from the scene.

The seventh accident happened on L-36. While traveling from Herforst to Spiecher, an airman negotiating a curve at a speed too fast for conditions slid off the road and hit a tree. There were no injuries. The vehicle sustained disabling front-end damage and was towed from the scene.

The eighth accident of the week was on the autobahn near Kenn. An airman lost control of his vehicle and began to fishtail, striking the guardrail numerous times. There were no injuries. Vehicular damage consisted of disabling front-end and front quarter-panel damage. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

The eleven minor accidents involved:

- Three from backing.
 - Five from inattentive driving.
 - One animal strike.
 - One for speed too fast for conditions
 - One on-duty mishap resulted from misjudged distance.
- In addition, 21 citations were issued.

Pallets

Continued from Page 1

9. A pallet or bin is delivered and left in the cargo deployment function without an increment monitor. Each increment, or piece of cargo, must have a monitor with it when it arrives at the CDF for its inspection. The monitor must be able to answer questions about the pallet's content and its construction. Additionally, he or she may have to rebuild it.

8. Incorrect placards. Each pallet or bin has a placard attached to it containing critical identification information on it for in-transit visibility. This visibility helps members keep track of the equipment no matter where in the world it may be. If any of the letters or numbers are wrong, then members won't be able to find the equipment in the transportation system. The Installation Deployment Plan, paragraph 6.6.11.4 lists how to properly fill out a placard.

7. Dirty or damaged pallets, bins or rolling stock. Members may think this wouldn't matter, but it does to the loadmaster who is getting ready to load it

into his or her aircraft. Dirt or damage could pose a risk to member safety and other equipment aboard the cargo jet.

6. Incorrect hazardous paperwork. Any increments shipped with hazardous items must have a Shipper's Declaration for Dangerous Goods. Units must appoint and train members for handling and certifying these items in advance. LGRRT members conduct SDDG document training. Members can register for classes through their unit training manager.

5. Inaccurate load and packing lists. These lists identify every item within the bin or pallet. Variation to the list can cause the increment to be frustrated. The increment monitor will have to figure out what is missing and may have to draw up new lists.

4. The increment is being hand-carried instead of palletized. This is a major problem that affects the amount of airlift required to complete delivery. If a unit decides to hand-carry its equipment, it needs to notify the deployment control center as soon as possible after being tasked.

3. Vehicles or pieces of equipment are brought in with a full tank of fuel. The amount of fuel allowed in support and self-propelled equipment depends on the type of movement. Units should check with the DCC to determine the exact requirements.

2. Increments are brought to the CDF yard without dunnage. Dunnage is the wood that goes underneath the bin or the pallet to protect it and its contents. The dunnage deploys with the equipment so that the deploying unit can use it downrange as well. Standard dunnage dimensions are 4 inches by 4 inches by 8 feet.

1. The unit doesn't have the tasked cargo. If the unit doesn't have a particular increment and the items can't be found anywhere else on base, the unit must complete a shortfall. A shortfall lets higher headquarters know the wing won't be able to provide the items to its deployed location and it will have to be sourced from another base. Documentation should be completed as early as possible. Procedures for completing shortfalls can be found in IDP, paragraph 6.6.1.

Briefs

Continued from Page 1

Officer induction ceremony takes place Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. in the base fitness center. The guest speaker is the ninth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James C. Binnicker. Call unit first sergeants or Master Sgt. Maurice Washington at 452-4998 or Master Sgt. Jeffrey Vanscoy at 452-6730 to reserve a seat.

Military personnel flight hours

Wing military personnel flight agencies are open from 7:30 a.m. to noon daily for appointments only. Walk-in service is offered from noon to 4:30 p.m.

Call outbound assignments at 452-6817, promotions and testing at 452-6344, re-

enlistments at 452-7876, awards and decorations at 452-6221 or enlisted and officer evaluations at 452-6221 for more information.

Passport office

From Aug. 19 to Sept. 6, the passport office is open Tuesday and Thursday by appointment only. Call 452-5519 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Driver's safety training

The local conditions driving course takes place each Wednesday and Friday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in building 307. Scheduling for training is not required, but people who wish to get a U.S. Army Europe driver's

license must attend this briefing prior to taking the driving test. For more information, call Helmut Rass at 452-7233.

Volunteer retirees needed

The Bitburg Annex Army and Air Force Exchange Service seeks volunteer retirees to help with the "Still Serving" sales event taking place Sept. 20-22. Veterans are encouraged sign up to share war stories and military memorabilia to show that the retired community is "still serving." Call Penny Madison, exchange manager, at 06561-95150 to register or for more information.

Safety note

Bicyclists riding on base are required to

wear an American National Safety Institute approved helmet in accordance with Spangdahlem Air Base Instruction 31-204.

Additionally, bicyclists aren't permitted to ride in areas intended for pedestrian use. When riding at night, bicyclists must also wear brightly colored or reflective clothing and ride on the right side of the road.

Medical training

To ensure readiness, promote wellness and deliver quality healthcare, the 52nd Medical Group conducts training the first Thursday of each month. The medical group closes Sept. 5 for its next training day. For urgent care that day, patients should visit the Bitburg Annex hospital emergency room.

Air Force releases all AFSCs on Stop-Loss

By Master Sgt. Ron Tull
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - Air Force officials release the last officer and enlisted specialties on Stop-Loss beginning Sept. 1.

In making the announcement, Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche said the release will be phased in during a one-month period to allow both the Air Force and affected personnel time for transition.

"We have arrived at a new steady-state," Roche said. "Stop-Loss most certainly helped us get here successfully, but we had pledged all along that we wouldn't hold onto anyone longer than necessary."

The release, which affects three officer and 15 enlisted specialties, will begin with people who had original retirement or separation dates prior to April 1. They will be able to leave beginning Sept. 1. During the second phase, individuals with retirement or separation dates between April 1 and Sept. 30 can be released. In

the final phase, anyone with a retirement or separation date of Oct. 1 or later can separate at his or her established date.

Members can request to remain on active duty up to five months to transition to civilian life and use accrued leave. The release does not apply to airmen who are currently deployed in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom; all deployed personnel will remain subject to Stop-Loss as long as they are deployed. Upon completion of deployment, people will have up to five months to transition.

Stop-Loss was implemented shortly after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to meet unprecedented mission requirements. The process was reviewed every 60 days.

"We were very aware of the sacrifice our airmen and their families were making," Roche said. "Service before self is an Air Force core value and their performance illustrated that." (Air Force Print News)

Airman in-Tuition

Sussie Ruppel, base education center guidance counselor, discusses tuition assistance options with Airman 1st Class Shavon Brookes, 52nd Mission Support Squadron reenlistments journeyman, at the Education Fair at Spangdahlem Air Base Aug. 2. The Air Force's new 100 percent tuition assistance program starts in October in time for Term Two. Additionally, the cut-off date for Community College of the Air Force fall graduation is Aug. 30. Potential graduates must turn in all the necessary documents, including transcripts and proof of course completion, to the education office to qualify. For more information, call the education center at 452-6335.

Staff Sgt. Kimberly Drake

Officials extend some AEF tours

Reserve and Guard demobilization coupled with Stop Loss releases strains deployable career field pool

WASHINGTON — While Air Force leaders remain committed to the current air and space expeditionary force construct of three-month deployments in a 15-month window, about 10 to 15 percent of the deployed force will be gone longer, based upon current requirements, Air Force officials said.

Extended tour lengths are becoming necessary to fill shortfalls in certain stressed career fields caused, in part, by demobilizing Reserve and Guard forces and releasing most Air Force specialties from Stop-Loss to meet end-strength requirements.

Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, understands the contributions required by the total force to allow the Air Force to succeed in the war on terrorism.

"As I talk with airmen and their families around the world, I understand the stress and sacrifices our continuing high operations tempo levies on many of our people," Jumper said in a July 23 letter to airmen worldwide. "The Secretary (of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche) and I want to express our gratitude and admiration to everyone supporting this critical effort. A grateful American public recognizes and appreciates your dedication and hard work as well."

The Air Force has begun to identify the stressed career fields that could be affected by longer tour lengths. The initial specialties include: security forces, office of special investigations, civil engineers, fire fighters, intelligence, transportation, explosive ordnance disposal, combat control, command post, fuels, liquid fuels, communications, air command and warning, air battle managers, pilots and enlisted aircrews.

Not all of the people in these stressed career fields

will be deployed longer than three months, but many will, said Maj. Gen. Tim Peppe, special assistant for air and space expeditionary forces.

"We don't know the full magnitude of it yet," Peppe said. "The AEF Center is currently sourcing the requirements for AEF 5/6. We've already notified some people in AEFs 3/4 that they'd be staying for up to 179 days."

Peppe said the reaction from people who were told they would be deployed longer was varied.

"I think quite frankly they would have preferred that the Air Force told them they'd be staying longer before they went," Peppe said. "Clearly, our goal is to work three-month deployments for everyone, but with standing up 14 additional expeditionary air bases, we have some work to do to make sure we have enough people in all the right career fields. There are two ongoing studies which are quantifying the help needed in numerous career fields."

Some of the work to be done to help the stressed career fields is to increase the pool of those qualified to deploy, and to seek to balance the workload and "stressors" between the respective specialties.

"Currently, we have about 175,000 positions postured in the AEF library that the AEF Center looks at on a daily basis to fill requirements," Peppe said. "That number has increased by about 3,000 in the last six weeks by having all commands and organizations identify positions and personnel who previously were not postured in the AEF library. These people are now eligible to go on an AEF deployment."

Peppe said the total force is working to fill AEF requirements.

"Of the approximately 2,000 people who currently have been identified to deploy longer than three months, some are from the Reserve or Guard who have volunteered and are a big help," Peppe said. "We shouldn't forget that the reserve component continues to pull its fair share of the requirements." (Air Force Print News)

Officer promotions system revamped

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has made changes to officer promotion opportunities for upcoming boards and to the data presented on the selection brief available to board members.

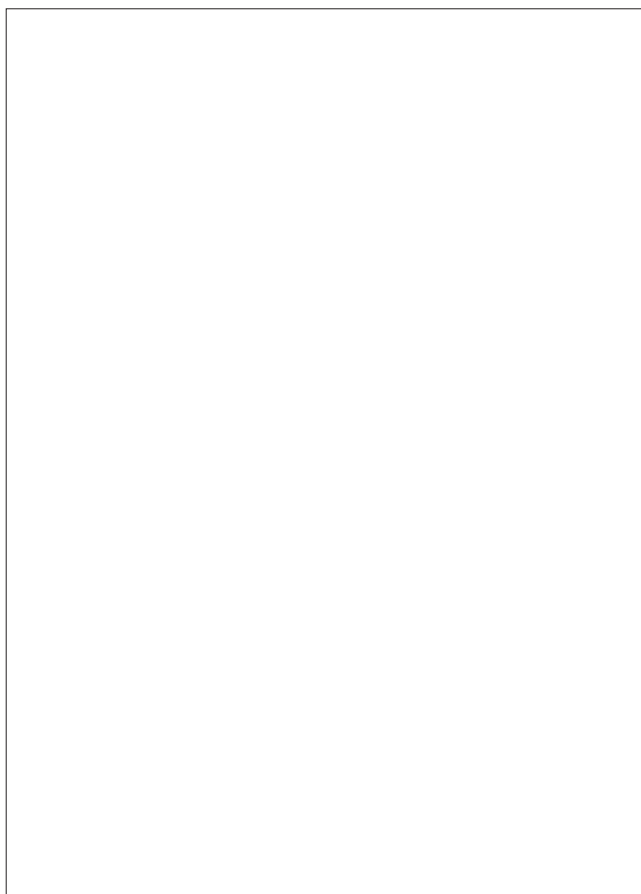
During the Oct. 3 promotion boards, those looking for promotion to O-4 will find the promotion opportunities, or the maximum number of individuals each board may select to be promoted, higher than in the past.

The promotion board for O-4 can now promote the number of officers equal to 95 percent of the number in the promotion zone for line officers, lawyers and medical service corps officers. That number is up from 90 percent during the last board. Additionally, promotion opportunities for some competitive categories during the upcoming O-5 board will also increase.

According to Maj. Sandra Edens of the Air Force office of officer promotions at the Pentagon, the increase in promotion opportunity allows the Air Force to adjust long-term force strength and to come closer to meeting its goals for those in field grade officer positions.

Along with the changes for O-4 promotion boards, officer selection briefs used in all boards meeting as early as August will no longer contain references to race, ethnicity or gender, as directed by Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche in the recently approved Memorandum of Instruction for officer selection boards.

"Removal of race, ethnicity and gender information from the officer selection brief more accurately reflects the Air Force's officer promotion board process, to be fair and equitable to all individuals meeting the board," said Maj. Isaac Davidson of the Air Force office of officer promotion, evaluation and separation policy.



Airman 1st Class Scott Hupp, crew chief, discusses aircraft performance with pilot 1st Lt. Michael Bullard after a sortie in Slovakia.

Slovakia

Continued from Page 1

assistant director of operations and deployment project officer. "At Spangdahlem, we don't have the opportunity to take off, go to a range this close and for an hour straight, concentrate solely on weapons delivery skills."

Practicing those skills is imperative to Panther pilots because of an annual training requirement for each pilot to have a certain number of weapons deliveries per year. This deployment, along with the one in April, "definitely helps to zero out the requirements for all the pilots," Ramer said.

While the A-10 mission is primarily close air support, the focus changes during WTDs to basic surface attacks. However, the two missions go hand-in-hand, according to Ramer.

"The most important part of CAS is putting bombs on target. This training helps us build habit patterns so when bullets are flying, our guys are comfortable in getting themselves to a correct weapons delivery platform," he said. "I have to be able to get the bombs on target, or everything else I've done up to that point doesn't matter."

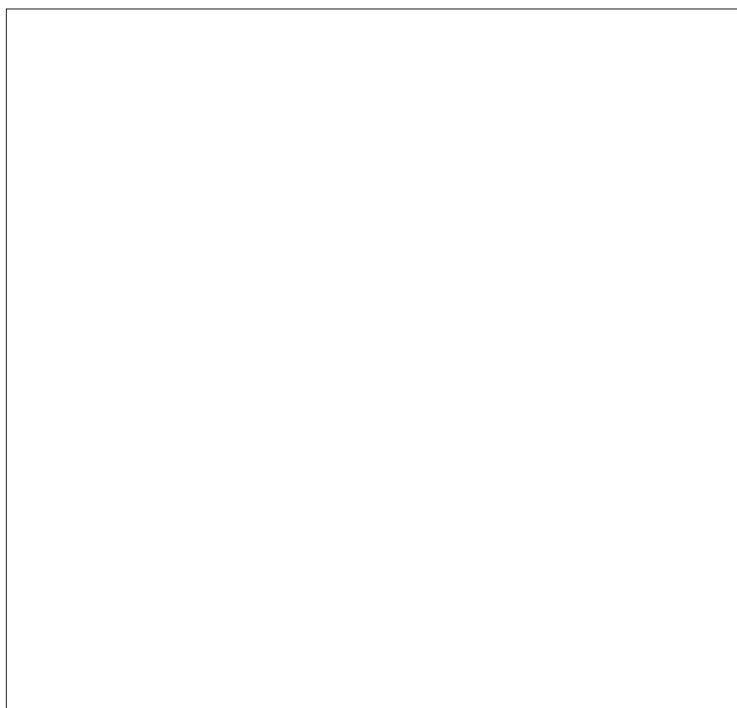
This is the third deployment to Slovakia for the 81st FS and fourth for Spangdahlem Air Base. Though the training is extremely

beneficial to the U.S. Air Force, Ramer said the Slovak air force also gains a great deal. Because Slovakia hopes to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the interaction with the American military helps the Slovaks get familiar with some of NATO's procedures.

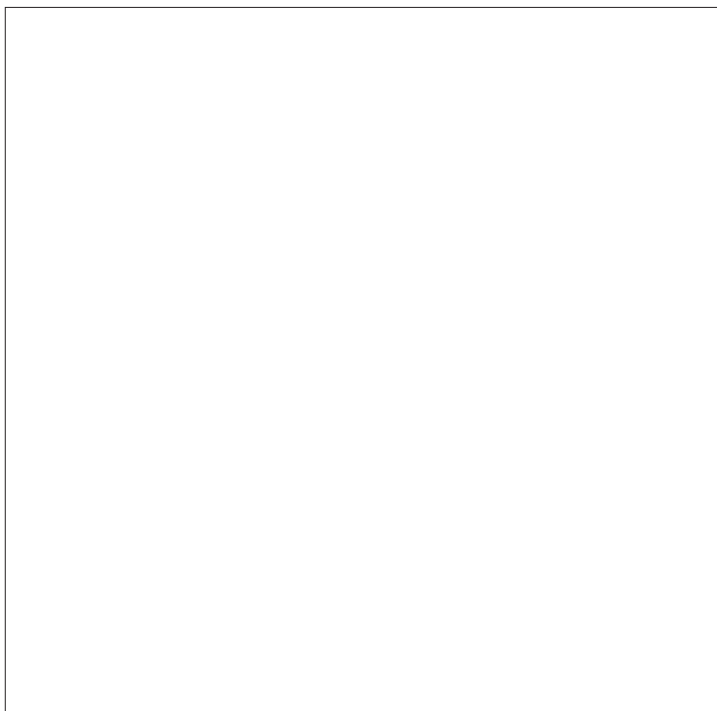
Weapons delivery wasn't quite the only mission in Slovakia. After two years of being graded on every single flight he took, one pilot was finally upgraded to "combat mission ready." What that means to 1st Lt. Sean Baerman is that now he's allowed to go to war, if necessary. Baerman said he's relieved to finally be "MR," but his plight is far from finished. Next, he said, is learning to be a good wingman and various other upgrades.

With the wing's busy calendar, Baerman should have the opportunity to practice his wingman skills. Next for the 81st is a deployment to France for Cooperative Key, a wing operational readiness inspection and AEF deployment next spring. Ramer said he's not sure when the squadron will return to Slovakia, but this trip was very valuable.

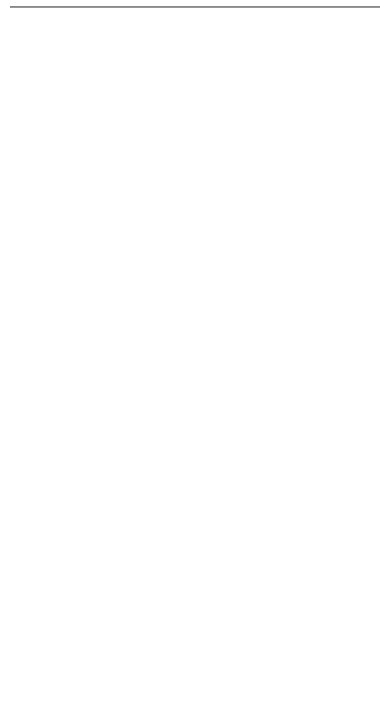
"The flying was very good, the training excellent," Ramer said. "The interaction we've had with the Slovaks was nothing but positive. The open house proved to us the Slovaks were very happy to have us here."



Senior Airman Jimmy Taylor, 81st Aircraft Maintenance Flight crew chief, checks the A-1 edge during the 81st Fighter Squadron weapons training deployment to Slovakia July 2 must check for loose, missing or damaged screws or rivets and general security of all the for the 81st Fighter Squadron this year and the third overall. The unit was last in Slovakia

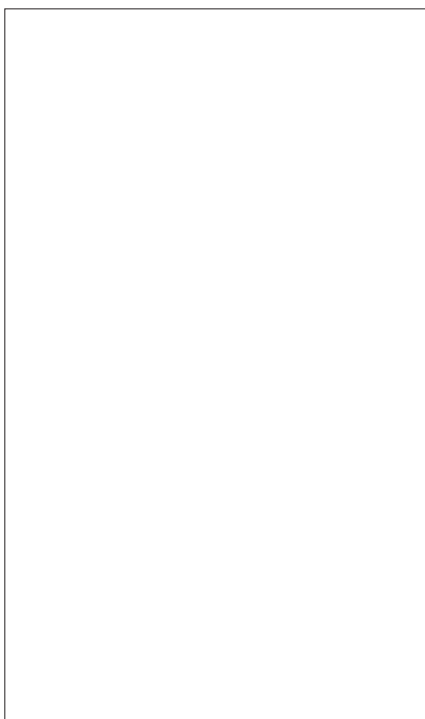


Senior Airman Erik Carroll, crew chief, helps fuel an A-10 in between sorties during the weapons training deployment.

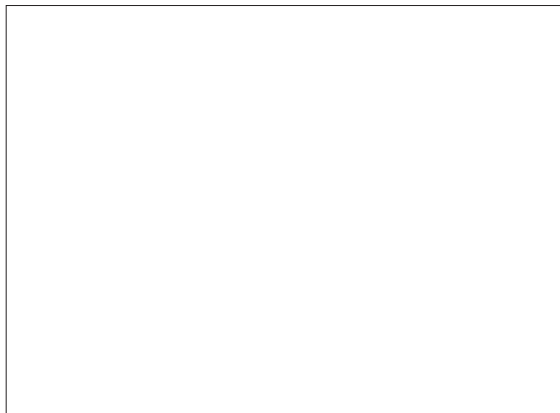


Photos by Staff Sgt. Cindy York

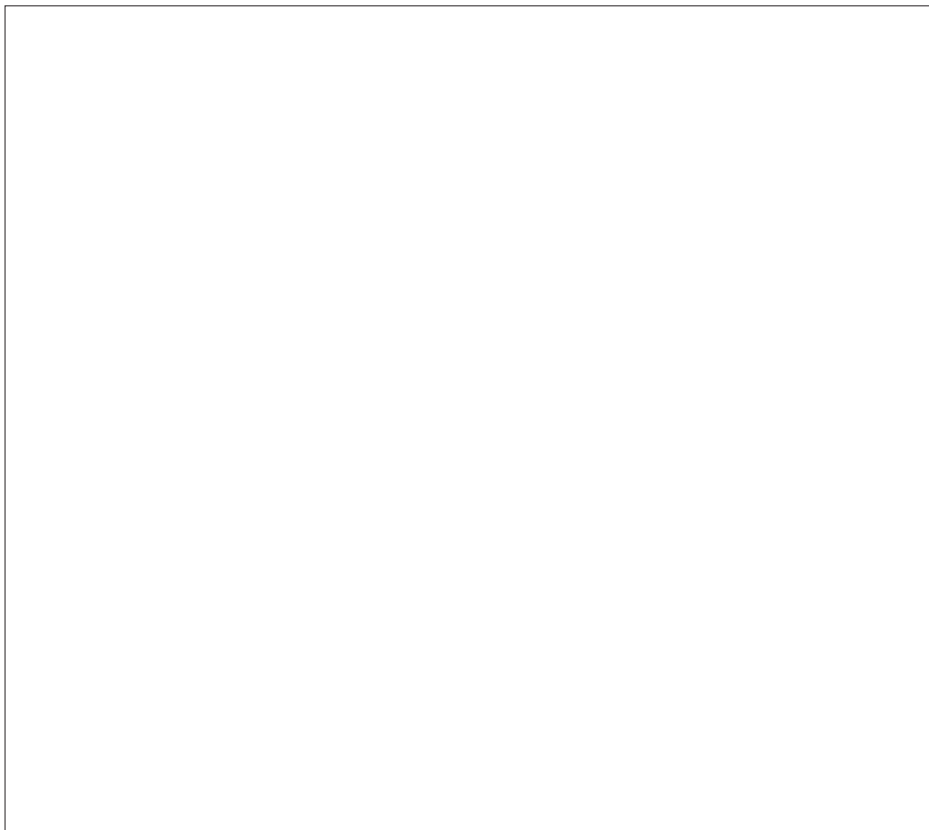
10 vertical stabilizer for cracks in the leading 20-Aug. 3. During the inspection, Taylor also he hardware. This is the second deployment i in April.



Staff Sgt. Thomas Wise, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels terminal supervisor, checks out a fuel leak on the Hammond Additive Injector Cart during the 81st FS deployment to Slovakia.



Capt. Michelle Vestal, 81st FS pilot, talks with a Slovak woman during the Open House July 27 at the 2nd Air Force Base, Kuchyna, Slovakia. About 10,000 people attended the Open House, which featured aerial demonstrations, as well as several displays. On display for Spangdahlem Air Base was an A-10, a fire truck and an explosive ordnance disposal robot. The A-10 was the most visited attraction by far and Vestal was popular as the only female fighter pilot at the event.



Tech. Sgt. Daniel Legg, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, inserts the explosive device into BDU-33 practice bombs.



An A-10 makes a bombing run with BDU-33 practice bombs at Range B in Slovakia.

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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

- DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
- Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- To public affairs in building 23.
- Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

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12

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
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Viewpoint

Aug. 9, 2002

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From the top

Euro-Lightning ... Phase One and One-Half

52nd Fighter Wing leadership

The warriors of the 52d Fighter Wing engaged in a Euro-Lightning exercise July 30 through Aug. 2 to test the wing's ability to generate a light, lean and lethal force.

What an impressive display of combat power and capability across the wing's spectrum! Wing warriors — men and women, airman basic to colonel — working tooth and nail in all weather conditions to meet our President's mandate to continue waging the war on terrorism and prevent another Sept. 11 from happening.

This article was purposely entitled "Euro-Lightning ... Phase One and One-Half." We are all accustomed to a Phase One exercise defined as deployment — mobility processing, aircraft generation and aircraft regeneration. Phase Two has historically been a mock deployment to the war zone. While there, it's time to "employ," have your chemical gear with you and be prepared to "suck rubber" for hours.

With the reality of a terrorist threat as close as our base perimeter, we're convinced it's prudent and just plain good practice for us to be prepared for any real-world event. That's why our Exercise Evaluation Team created and implemented scenarios where wing members respond to possible terrorist activity, while at the same time preparing our troops to deploy — a Phase One and One-Half.

Ever since Sept. 11, we've been told by our President and the news media that all Americans (military or civilian) are subject to yet another terrorist attack. The attack will be waged by those terrorists who despise democracy, our way of life, and what Americans stand for.

We would be living in a fantasy world if we believed for a heartbeat that we here at Spangdahlem Air Base are in a safe haven, free of the terrorist threat. That's why we had the EET create and implement scenarios designed to respond to possible terrorist activity, like a simulated car bombing or any other example seen on CNN. We expect all personnel to react to those scenarios as if they were real — as if our lives depended on it.

That's why the main gate closes for periods of time and inconveniences all of us, including our families, as security forces

members thoroughly check ID cards, vehicle registrations, randomly check under hoods and under vehicle frames and so on.

So, now we've got a number of challenges to work. We've had a simulated explosion at the flag pole, we lock down the gates because we implement Force Protection Condition "Delta." We've just been attacked!

Vehicles are not allowed to enter or exit the base until we evaluate the threat and care for the simulated injured. That all takes some time, but it's a wise investment nonetheless. This sure smells like a Phase Two doesn't it? But, with the threat we face today, America expects us all to be prepared. That's why our military members wear protective equipment — web belts, canteens, helmets and carrying our mask — just in case we need it!

We have our folks who process for deployments wearing the same just in case they need it while processing to depart, and certainly to have it on their person when they arrive at the war zone.

Overall, the 52nd FW mobilized and deployed in an outstanding manner. However, there's always room for improvement as we practice "Excellence in all we do":

■ **Sense of urgency and reaction to force protection conditions:** If we are under exercise FPCON Delta and we're simulating being under attack, it's critical to your survival to hunker down and take cover until the giant voice or the battle staff directives direct otherwise. Exercises stress our capabilities: warriorship, decision making processes and how we comply with guidance. But most of all, they stress our attitude and sense of urgency, both of which are absolutely critical to our success in everything we do, daily!

■ **Self aid and buddy care:** Our best tool to help us with self-aid/and buddy care is the *Airman's Manual*. Every member of the 52nd FW military members will be equipped with an *Airman's Manual* because it provides superb information on how to treat various injuries from burns to shock and everything in between.

Everyone was critical to the success of our latest exercise, but we had a fair share of superstars who clearly demonstrated the

attitude and sense of urgency we need during exercise evaluations. They are:

52nd Aircraft Maintenance Flight
Tech. Sgt. David Ross
Senior Airman Greg Ciasnocha
Airman 1st Class Kevin Mack

81st Aircraft Maintenance Flight
Airman 1st Class Paul Rudolph

52nd Civil Engineer Squadron
Capt. Lori Kabel
Tech. Sgt. Stephen Cass
Tech. Sgt. Glenn Shelton
Staff Sgt. Stephanie Spear
Staff Sgt. Greg Telesh
Staff Sgt. James Cox
Senior Airman Candice Harden
Airman 1st Class Rachel Sheppard
Airman Jason Sundin

52nd Communication Squadron
2nd Lt. Todd Allison
2nd Lt. Jason Connell
2nd Lt. William M. Hamilton II

52nd Component Maintenance Squadron
Staff Sgt. Francis Morrissey

52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Staff Sgt. Kevin Hamblin
Senior Airman Brendan Jones

22nd Fighter Squadron
Maj. Douglas Blauser
Maj. Jay Boyd
Capt. Matthew Jensen
Capt. Christopher Schneider
Capt. Christopher Vance
1st Lt. Corey Hermes
Staff Sgt. Aaron Kigar

52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
Master Sgt. Dennis Gerstenkorn
Tech. Sgt. Donnie Wright
Tech. Sgt. Ken Castex
Staff Sgt. Shannon Wells
Airman 1st Class Avery Dolinger
Airman 1st Class Tanya Lopez
Airman Richard Conner

52nd Maintenance Group

Tech. Sgt. Henry Cummings
Staff Sgt. Juan Santos
Staff Sgt. Christopher Schaeuble

52nd Mission Support Group

Tech. Sgt. Martin Molli
Staff Sgt. Jody LaNew

52nd Mission Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Diane Pierce
Staff Sgt. Thomas Jeffrey
Staff Sgt. Kim Armijo
Senior Airman Amy Francis
Senior Airman Travis Quarles
Airman 1st Class Melinda Heinrich

52nd Operations Support Squadron

Maj. Kevin Schneider

Outstanding team --

52nd LRS Passenger Manifesting and Baggage Pallet Buildup team
Staff Sgt. Kimberly Soto
Senior Airman Aisha Small
Senior Airman Larry Mikinka
Airman 1st Class Amy Maloney
Airman 1st Class Rakeshia Brown
Airman 1st Class Richard Conner
Airman Roosevelt Stewart II

These are just some of the superstars of this past exercise. It takes a team effort to make Euro-Lightning happen. But, we're not there yet.

We still have the "dress rehearsal" in August, which may be our final practice. We'll say it again. Everyone — airman to colonel, military members and civilians — is important and critical to our success.

Remember, Euro-Lightning is more than a Phase One mobility exercise ... it's a Phase One and One-Half.

We look forward to our next exercise to once again prove we are not only the best base in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe, but the best base in the Air Force. Euro-Lightning is our Super Bowl and we intend to be the Super Bowl champions. . "Let's Roll!"

Community Mailbox

Pet care

■The 52nd Services Squadron Pet Spa provides pet care services to include kenneling, grooming, training, pet supply sales and veterinary services for military community pets. The office is located in Oberweis Annex building 1044. It's open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. The Pet Spa offers walk-in vaccination services Thursday from 3-6 p.m. in front of the base community activity center. Call 452-9362 for more information.

■The Army Veterinary Treatment Facility primarily provides care for military working dogs, but also provides medical care for military community pets. The clinic also often has kittens, cats and other animals available for adoption. Call 452-9388 for more information.

Children's theater

A free showing of the Missoula children's theater play, "The Wiz of the West," takes place Saturday at 5 p.m. in the base community activities center.

MOPS trip

Mothers of Preschoolers visits Daun Animal Park Aug. 21. All parents and children of any age are welcome to join the trip. Cost is 3 euro for children 5 and older and adults. Travelers will caravan from the commissary parking lots at 10 a.m. or people can e-mail spangmops@yahoo.com for directions and meet the group at the park. Call Darla Kelly at 06562-974239 for more information.

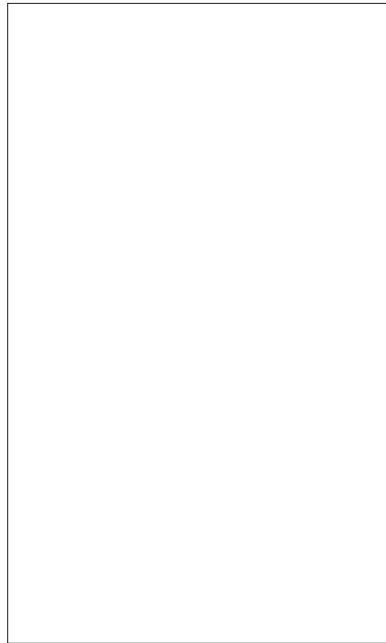
School news

■New students needing transportation to school must register for bus passes at the student transportation office. Sponsors should bring a copy of the school registration form. The office is located in Spangdahlem Elementary School complex building 433. The office is open 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 452-5340 or 452-5352 for details.

■New student orientations take place Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. in Spangdahlem Middle School and at 2 p.m. in Bitburg Middle School.

■SES officials post class lists Aug. 22 in the school.

■Parents who haven't registered students for the new year should visit the school office to complete the necessary



Staff Sgt. Kimberly Drake

High Bounce

Tim Douglas, age 10, and Mariah Teasdale, age 8, play in the bouncing castle Aug. 4 at the National Kid's Day celebration on Spangdahlem Air Base. The event, sponsored by the Boys' and Girls' Club and the 52nd Services Squadron, featured games and food honoring Eifel military community children.

documents. Classes begin Aug. 26 at all schools.

For more information, call SES at 452-6881, SMS at 452-7205, Bitburg Elementary School at 452-9215, BMS at 452-9310 or Bitburg High School at 452-9337.

Chapel news

■The Bitburg Annex Chapel contemporary worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel office at 452-6711 for details.

■The Spangdahlem AB Chapel new weekly service, "Sunday Night Life," begins Aug. 25 at 5 p.m. Child care for infants, and classes oriented for young children and

youth are provided. Call Alaine Strozier at 06565-955898 for details.

La Leche league

New mothers meet Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex hospital conference room. Meetings are open to mothers who are interested in or are currently breastfeeding. Nurslings and children are welcome to attend. Call Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 or Alice DaFoe at 06561-683893 for details.

Family support news

The family support center offers the following classes in Spangdahlem Air Base building 307, unless listed otherwise. Call 452-6894 for more information.

■Local employment, Thursday from 1-3 p.m.

■Home buying, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Six-week conversational German class starts Aug. 20 from 6-8:30 p.m. in building 131.

■Financial planning, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 20

■German bills made easy, Aug. 21 8-9:30 a.m.

The family support center offers the following classes on Bitburg Annex building 2001. Call 452-9424 for more information.

■Career profiling, Tuesday from 1-3:30 p.m.

■Pre-deployment briefing for active-duty and spouses, Tuesday and Aug. 21 from 8-9 a.m.

■Travel to Trier by train for the military community, Aug 16 from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meet at the Bitburg Annex commissary.

Girls Scouts

"Girl Scouts Sampler" twilight camp takes place Wednesday through Friday from 5-8 p.m. on Spangdahlem Air Base at the pavilions behind the bowling alley. The event is open for girls entering kindergarten through grade 12.

Early registration takes place now through Tuesday by calling Kannetha Clem at 06575-903627 or via e-mail at Kannetha_Clem@hotmail.com. Early registration also takes place Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex exchange entrance.

Early registration costs \$10 for Girl Scout members and \$17 for non-Girl Scout members. Registration also takes place Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the campsite. Registration the day of the event costs \$15 for Girl Scout members and \$22 for non-Girl Scout members.

Activities include sports, science projects, arts and a cookout. Camp coordinators also seek volunteers to help with activities. Call Karen Topolosky at 06561-947769 for details.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Minority Report (PG-13)

In Washington D.C. in 2054, police use psychic technology to arrest and convict murderers before they commit crimes. Decisions are made by a panel of three judges, where the feelings of two judges outweigh the third. If the correct verdict comes from that one judge, it's a "minority report." The head of this "pre-crime" unit is accused of the future murder of a man he never met. (Violence, language, sexuality and drug content.)

Saturday

Lilo & Stitch (PG)

Animated. Lilo adopts a small ugly dog from an alien planet she names Stitch. Lilo helps unlock Stitch's heart and gives him the one thing he was never designed to have - the ability to care for others. (Sci-fi action.)

Sunday

Minority Report

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Lilo & Stitch

Thursday

About A Boy (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Will, a 36-year-old London playboy, seeks relationships with single mothers because he thinks they're more desperate. All his plans go out the window when he becomes emotionally attached to a woman's 12-year-old son. (Language and thematic elements.)

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Enough (PG-13)

Slim tries to escape her abusive husband, but he pursues her relentlessly. Ultimately, she decides that there's only one way out of the marriage. (Violence, sensuality and language.)

Insomnia

(R, 10 p.m.)

A veteran police detective is sent to a small Alaskan town to investigate the murder of a teenage girl. Forced into a psychological game with the primary suspect, events escalate and the detective finds his own stability dangerously threatened. (Language, violence and nudity.)

Saturday

Hey Arnold! (PG, 4 p.m.)

Animated. Arnold is up against a powerful industrialist who buys-out the city so he can construct a huge "mall-plex." Can Arnold and his best friend Gerald find the document that can stop the bulldozers? (Thematic elements.)

40 Days and 40 Nights

(R)

Devastated after his girlfriend leaves him for a Hollywood agent, a young man decides to give up sex for Lent. Additionally, he gives up kissing and touching. Unfortunately, he meets the girl of his dreams during this period of abstinence and almost misses his chances with her.

Unfaithful

(R, 10 p.m.)

Ed and Connie Sumner are happily married, until Connie begins an affair with a younger man. Ed hires a detective to trail her, but it ends up in murder. (Sexuality, language and violence.)

Sunday

Hey Arnold! (1 p.m.)

Hey Arnold! (4 p.m.)

Enough

Monday

Insomnia

Tuesday

Hey Arnold

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Koblenz takes on different light for Rhine Aflame fireworks fest

By Iris Reiff

52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Fireworks, food and German bands highlight this year's Rhine Aflame festival in Koblenz. Annually, the event attracts about 500,000 spectators from all over Germany.

Rhine Aflame starts today at 4 p.m. with an open-air concert at the German Corner, featuring performances by German bands BAP and Smailshous. Tickets to the concert, which are available until about 11 p.m. today, cost 25 euro. People can also call the ticket hotline at 01805-2018 or 01805-4304 to order them in advance.

The first beer barrel is tapped Saturday at about 11 a.m. in the town's market square marking the official start of the festival. At this time the amusement park opens and bands start performing jazz, soul and pop music in every corner of the city.

In the evening, visitors can watch water skiing and parachute jumping demonstrations taking place on the river.

Food, beverage and craft booths can be found along the Rhine River and in the festival area. The main highlight of the festival; however, are the fireworks displays.

Eight displays light up the skies over the Rhine River between Braubach and Koblenz from 9:30 to 11 p.m. In Koblenz, fireworks and illuminations also cast Castle Ehrenbreitstein in a different light.

Because of the festival's popularity, officials recommend visitors arrive early to find good parking near the city. People are also encouraged to take the bus from parking areas into the center of town.

Most people start looking for a

good fireworks viewpoint at 10 p.m. Bring a folding chair or blanket to avoid from having to sit on the bare ground. The show, which usually lasts between 30 and 45 minutes, can be viewed from the banks of the Rhine or from the hillsides on the 17-kilometer long stretch along the river.

Before the fireworks displays, 70 illuminated passenger ships with about 30,000 spectators aboard, will cruise down the Rhine and dock in Koblenz.

During the festival the German Polizei will enforce alcohol controls, advising people not to drink and drive. Wing members planning to attend the festival should designate a non-drinking driver before traveling to the event.

For more festival information, call the Koblenz tourist information office at 0261-31304.

Eifel Sports World

Kicking back

Paul Caligiuri, Los Angeles Galaxy soccer team, shows Spangdahlem Air Base youth how to juggle a soccer ball at the youth center Aug. 1. Spangdahlem AB is one of many military installations throughout U.S. Air Forces in Europe. Caligiuri will visit as part of the Extreme Summer program.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Sabers head to Lakenheath for title run

By Brian Doyle

Sabers softball team coach

The Spangdahlem Air Base's men's varsity softball team has completed its regular season and is preparing a command-level win.

The Sabers head to Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, Aug. 27 for the U. S. Air Forces in Europe championship. If the team qualifies, it will stay to compete in the Final Four championships.

The Final Four tournament pits the top two Air Force teams against the Army's top two for the championship title. The Sabers work to win its first USAFE title in four years. In 1999, the team also won the Final Four tournament.

This year, the men have earned a 30 win-seven loss record and have reached the finals in each of the four tournaments it entered, winning both the pre-season and European Invitational tournaments.

Key Team Saber players include Clifford "Gonzo" Gonzalez who has led the team this year as the starting pitcher. He is one of the team's leading hitters with a .626 batting average, but it's his competitiveness and his desire to win that makes everyone around him perform better.

The Sabers also have one very powerful batting line-up, led by Chuck Nimmo. Nimmo leads the team in nearly every offensive category including 115 hits, 50 homeruns, 120 RBIs and a .706 batting average.

Other offensive stars include Kent Magilligan with a .693 batting average, 30 homeruns and a 93 RBI. Bo Brewer sports a .685 average, 27 homeruns, and 76 RBIs. Jeff Dahlke bats a .646 average, has 25 homeruns and 62 RBIs to his credit. The men have .611 team batting average and averages 21.5 runs and 5.7 homeruns per game.

Other team members headed to the USAFE championships include Josh Williams, Jeremy Rock, Lloyd Oxford, AJ Oldfather, Terrence Vinson, Carlos Messer, Lyle Brown, Brian Hendon and Ray Delgado.